

Serial No.: 10/520,611

Attorney Docket No. PF020086

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in this application.

Objection to the Specification

The specification is objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.77(b) as not including the section headings of the preferred layout for a specification. The specification was amended by the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 9, 2005 concurrently with the filing of the application to include the proper section headings. In view of the amendments to the specification previously made in the above mentioned Preliminary Amendment, it is respectfully submitted this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Title

The title is objected to as not being clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection. The claims of the invention are directed to a "Radio Communication Repeater". The title of the invention is "Radio Communication Repeater". Should the Examiner be able to suggest a more suitable title for the present invention, Applicant will be receptive to consider the suggestion. Applicant respectfully submits that the title clearly indicates that the claims are directed to a "Radio Communication Repeater" and thus, this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1 and 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nche et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,012) in view of Beasley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,921,022). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

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The present claimed invention provides a radio communication repeater. The repeater includes a first path for receiving signals in a first frequency band, to translate the received signals into a second frequency band and to transmit in the second frequency band. A second path receives signals in the second frequency band, for translating the received signals into the first frequency band and transmitting in the first frequency band. A management circuit disables transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first, and disables transmission from the second path if the first path receives signals first, the first and second frequency bands being separated. As mentioned on page 1, lines 25-31 of the specification, the present claimed invention provides a repeater designed for indoor transmissions and adapted to overcome echoes.

Nche describes repeaters. The aim of repeaters according to Nche is to provide a relay for PCS systems that correspond to wide area networks. Nche neither discloses nor suggests a management circuit to disable transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first as in the present claimed invention. In column 6, lines 25-37, Nche describes that the repeater receives an ISM signal that is converted to PCS band and transmitted. Then, in column 6, lines 56-67, Nche describes that the repeater receives a PCS signal that is converted to ISM band and transmitted. In Column 7, lines 1-39, Nche gives details about the filtering and mixing of signals. In no way does Nche suggest or disclose that the transmission from one path will not take place if the other path signal is ready to be transmitted. On the contrary, figure 3 of Nche discloses two separated paths for two directions of signals; the only common elements and links between the paths are:

- The antennas that can be used in two directions at the same time; and
- The duplexers that are devices that isolate the receiver from the transmitter, while permitting them to share a common antenna; the duplexers can clearly be used in both directions and have no means for prevent the sending on one path if the other path signal is ready to be transmitted.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Nche neither discloses nor suggests "a management circuit to disable transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first, and to disable transmission from the second path if the first path

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receives signals first said first and second frequency bands being separated" as recited
in the present claimed invention.

As mentioned in abstract, Beasley describes a repeater using the effect of antenna diversity. That means that a signal in the same frequency band is received by two different antennas and that the best signal is chosen. This is illustrated by figures 1, 4 and 6. According to the invention, the first and second paths are respectively associated to first and second frequency bands that are different.

In no way does Beasley teach or suggest a management circuit to disable transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first, and to disable transmission from the second path if the first path receives signals first as in the present claimed invention. The order of reception of a signal on two different antennas is not taken into account by Beasley as only the strength of reception of a signal is used (as commonly known for diversity system). Thus, Beasley, similarly to Nche, neither discloses nor suggests "a management circuit to disable transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first, and to disable transmission from the second path if the first path receives signals first said first and second frequency bands being separated" as recited in the present claimed invention.

In addition, both Nche and Beasley are directed towards extending the cells of Wide Area Networks (WAN). This is unlike the present claimed invention which is directed to overcoming cchocs in indoor communications.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that neither Nche nor Beasley, when taken alone or in combination provide a radio communication repeater including "a management circuit to disable transmission from the first path if the second path receives signals first, and to disable transmission from the second path if the first path receives signals first said first and second frequency bands being separated" as recited in the present claimed invention. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that neither Nche nor Beasley provide a 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure

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making the present claimed invention unpatentable. Applicant thus respectfully
submits that this rejection is satisfied and requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

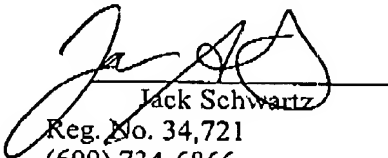
In the event there are further issues remaining in any respect the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney to reach agreement to expedite issuance of this application.

Should the Examiner feel that anything further is necessary to place this application in condition for allowance he is respectfully requested to contact applicants attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No additional fee is believed due. However, if an additional fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
Renaud Dore et al.

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